THE

Medical and Agricultural Regiſter.

VOL. I.] *SEPTEMBER*, 1806. [No. 9.

MEDICAL.

Anſwer to the Queſtion, No. II. of the Regiſter—" Why is it that the Ravages of the Conſumption are ſo much greater with the Female Sex than with the Male ?"

DR. ADAMS,

I OBSERVED in No. II. of the Regiſter, a queſtion which to me appears important, viz. " Why conſumption prevails ſo much more in the female than in the male ſex ?" With impatience I have waited to ſee an anſwer from ſome of your correſpondents, or from ſome able theoriſt and ſkilful practitioner, who had leiſure to benefit mankind by his ſtudy and obſervation ; as no anſwer has appeared, except this brief one, " The greater delicacy of the female than male conſtitution," I have been induced to attempt an anſwer, which is ſubmitted to your conſideration. I am no phyſician, therefore it cannot be expected I ſhould write in the profeſſional ſtyle ; I am however encouraged to communicate my thoughts from this conſideration, that the Regiſter is calculated to be a medium of moſt general information, and intended for the advantage of all claſſes of people : ſome of whom would not be benefited ſo much by a learned diſſertation as by a few deſultory remarks.

It appears to me that another queſtion in connexion with that propoſed is equally important, and in a meaſure neceſſary to come to an anſwer ; viz. Whence is it that conſumption is ſo much more prevalent in both ſexes now than in the days of our forefathers ? That this is fact, I preſume will not be denied. Conſumptions are not only more frequent according to

the teſtimony of aged people, but alſo much more rapid in their progreſs, than they were in their early days. Muſt this be charged to change in our climate ? or mode of living, and dreſs ? or ſome other cauſe, or cauſes ?

According to the ingenious reaſonings and obſervations of Dr. Williams, there has been a regular change of climate, (under certain circumſtances) progreſſing to a greater degree of warmth. But this change muſt be ſo gradual and ſlow as not to affect materially the health of inhabitants in one or two centuries, which includes the age of this country, as ſettled by Europeans.

If we attend to the mode of living, we ſhall find a far greater change between that of our hardy anceſtors and the preſent generation, than was ever known in any climate in ten centuries. If they, who now conſider ardent ſpirit, tea, ſugar, &c. as among the neceſſaries of life, will believe the report, our fathers ſcarcely knew more of them than the name. Inſtead of the produce of China and the Weſt Indies to compoſe their breakfaſt, they were content with the plain and ſimple produce of their farms. Inſtead of an ardent draught to raiſe their ſpirits, recruit them under fatigue, or create an appetite for dinner, they were ſupplied with nature's ſimple beverage, a draught of milk and water, a cup of beer, or even at the moſt with the produce of their own orchards. A particular object with them was to clothe their bodies ſo as to guard againſt the inclemencies of the climate, not aiming ſo much at ornament as convenience, not apeing (perhaps from a happy neceſſity) the faſhions and follies of older countries. It may not be unworthy of remark, that our hardieſt long-lived veterans commonly wore woollen ſhirts. It is true we appear much more refined in our mode of living and dreſs. We ſmile at their uncouth habits, and homely fare ; or perhaps pity their poverty ; ſince now he muſt appear poor indeed who cannot have the herb from China, and the juice of the cane every day ; and the vaſt quantity of diſtilled ſpirit which is conſumed almoſt exceeds belief. The mode of living and dreſs is now as different from what it was in the days of our grandfathers as ſimplicity and luxury. On which ſide is the advantage found, as to the ſtate of health ? Conſumption was then rarely known ; an inſtance of it was matter of general converſation, and long remembered : now it has become the moſt prevalent, as well as formidable diſeaſe of our country. We ſee a great change in the mode of living, and as great in the prevalent diſeaſes. May we not view it in the light of *cauſe* and *effect* ?

As to the ſecond queſtion, or rather the queſtion which was propoſed, Why conſumption prevails ſo much more in the

female than in the male ſex ? The anſwer given in No. IV. of the Regiſter, undoubtedly contains a principal reaſon. It will be readily granted that whatever cauſes have a tendency to produce conſumption, will operate more powerfully upon the delicate female conſtitution, and all the cauſes which have been conſidered as tending to increaſe this fatal complaint, are cauſes to which the female ſex are, perhaps, more expoſed than the male, excepting the free uſe of ardent ſpirits, which, to their honor be it ſpoken, they reject, generally, with becoming abhorrence, and view with mingled emotions its progreſs in the other ſex. But there are difficulties peculiar to the ſex, by which they are expoſed to have their conſtitution injured. Very many conſumptions have their origin in want of care and attention to themſelves at certain critical periods. Either by too violent exerciſe, or taking cold by expoſing themſelves to the evening air, or damping their feet, &c. obſtructions are formed, and frequently the conſtitution is irreparably injured, and the foundation of conſumption laid before they are aware of danger.

Young females who have not an affectionate mother, or experienced female friend, to take care of them, and warn them of their danger, are to be pitied. Some are doubtleſs led to expoſe themſelves at ſuch critical periods, by a falſe modeſty, or baſhfulneſs, of which they have to repent when it is too late to prevent the evil ; and ſome are criminally inattentive to the moſt tender advice, till qualified, by painful, perhaps fatal experience, to warn others, and too probably with as little ſucceſs. It is verily the opinion of the writer, that many, very many of the caſes of conſumption among females, have their origin in colds taken at times when they ought to be peculiarly careful of themſelves.

Another reaſon which may be aſſigned for conſumption being more frequent among females than males, is the *faſhion of dreſs*. While the female conſtitution is more delicate, and conſequently more eaſily injured, females are moſt expoſed, by the tyranny of faſhion, to all the inconveniences of our fickle climate. Faſhion has led them farther from the decent, comfortable, and healthy dreſs of their anceſtors, even than it has the males; and too many are ſo unhappily enſlaved, that the ſeaſons of the year can effect but very little change in the habit, unleſs the miſtreſs faſhion, or the leaders of the faſhion ſay ſo. It is important to the preſervation of health, that clothing ſhould be ſuited to the ſeaſon, and ſuch as to protect the body againſt the changes of the weather, and guard it from the cold. And if conſumptions have become frequent, as is quite apparent they have, in ſome proportion to the changes in

dreſs, as they have progreſſed from the warm and comfortable, to the light and airy; then we have too great reaſon to predict an increaſe of the number of victims from the preſent mode. Now in ſultry days of ſummer, moiſt and damp weather, foggy mornings and evenings, and in piercing cold of winter, fine linens and thin muſlins, are almoſt all that is allowed to cover the delicate limbs. Very thin clothing, naked boſoms, and arms bare almoſt to the ſhoulder, are melancholy preſages.

The very general and frequent uſe of tea is alſo thought to have influence in increaſing the number of conſumptive habits and caſes. Tea is allowed to be a nervine, and ranks in the claſs of tonics. It may, by a moderate and judicious uſe, in many caſes promote health, enliven the ſpirits, and "cheer but not inebriate:" yet like all other tonics, by too free and frequent uſe, it will produce indirect debility, manifeſted by palpitations of the heart, trembling of the nerves, &c. This perhaps *valuable medicine*, however, has become a principal, and is viewed as a neceſſary article of diet, eſpecially among females, and is frequently taken with very little ſolid food. No injury is ſoon perceived. The progreſs from health to diſeaſe is often ſlow, they are not alarmed by any ſudden and ſenſible conſequences; and even when ſymptoms of increaſing debility are perceived, they are unwilling to believe it can be occaſioned by the *favourite tea*. The cauſe is not ſuſpected, but applied to as a remedy, and verily believed to do good, becauſe their waſted ſinking ſpirits are revived thereby for the moment. Let obſervation decide whether the blooming cheek of health is moſt commonly found among thoſe who diet much on tea, or where it is ſeldom taſted.

If I might be permitted, I ſhould in this view name *Balls*, eſpecially as they are frequently conducted in the country. In order to have a juſt idea of them, we muſt conceive a large collection of youth of both ſexes aſſembled, probably in a crowded room, their ſpirits exhilarated by agreeable company, and tea, then the exerciſe of dancing to follow, till the pores are all opened, and the body fatigued, and this continued till wearineſs or cuſtom ſhews them it is time to ſeparate. View them paſſing out from the highly rarified air of a warm and crowded room, into the cold air of midnight, to ride to their homes, which are at a diſtance, with little additional covering to their light and airy dreſs, which would probably ſcarcely be burthenſome in a ſummer's day, and it will be hard to conceive that the delicate female conſtitution can bear all this without material injury. Such aſſemblies of young people, and conducted much after this manner, are not uncommon, eſpecially in the winter. Perhaps ſome may, but few indeed can,

bear this without feeling hurtful effects ; and many fine conſtitutions are ruined by it. Whatever may have been prediſpoſing cauſes, moſt caſes of pulmonary conſumption, have their firſt alarming ſymptoms from a cough occaſioned by a cold ; and many females who find a premature grave, may date their decline of health from their evening ball.

I am ſenſible that many arguments are uſed in favour of ſuch recreations, and alſo that it is hard reaſoning againſt a favorite amuſement : but is not loſs of beauty, loſs of health, and perhaps loſs of life at an early period, too great ſacrifices to be made for the pleaſures of an evening ball, for even polite accompliſhments, eaſy manners, and agreeable company ?

" Forgive the crime ; I wiſh them, I confeſs,
" Or better manag'd, or encourag'd leſs."

When conſumption is *ſeated*, as it is called, it is generally conſidered as incurable ; and the little ſucceſs which has attended medical preſcriptions hitherto, leads to view this as one of the moſt formidable of diſeaſes. Surely then, where there is very little ground to hope for relief when once the diſeaſe is ſettled, it muſt be of utmoſt importance to attend to preventative means, and guard againſt occaſions or cauſes of much diſeaſe. Here then let tender mothers be urged with greateſt earneſtneſs ſeaſonably to notify their young daughters of the change which, in the courſe of nature, is to take place in them at a certain age ; to warn them of the danger which attends indiſcretion at ſuch times, and with peculiar tenderneſs to watch over them, and take care of them. Many young females, for want of knowledge and experience, have at ſuch times immediately endangered their lives ; and many have ruined their conſtitutions, if not laid the foundation of conſumption. Shall affectionate mothers loſe the comfort they have fondly anticipated in their daughters, and be ſubjected to painful reflections by neglect of a duty which no one can diſcharge with ſo much propriety as they can ?

Let parents be urged by moral conſiderations and their affections for their offspring, to let their wiſdom ſupply the want of experience in their children, their daughters ; and their authority, if neceſſary, reſtrain them from following ſuch faſhions and faſhionable practices as have a direct tendency to injure their health.

Young people, eſpecially females, are entreated to pay particular attention to the *firſt appearances of indiſpoſition*. A cough, probably occaſioned by a cold, is conſidered as a ſlight affair ; yet it is too often neglected, even after it has continued beyond the uſual time, till the lungs are ſo debilitated by irritation and labor, that aſſiſtance comes too late. Whenever it is found that appetite fails, ſtrength decreaſes, and the veſſels

begin to loſe their tone, &c. theſe are alarming ſymptoms, from whatever cauſe they may originate: they demand an immediate attention. A high flow of ſpirits may not allow them to complain: they think to *ſhake it off*; but delays are extremely dangerous. Perhaps ſome ſtrive to hide their indiſpoſition, leſt the care of faithful and tender parents ſhould deprive them of recreations on which their hearts are ſet; and they purſue their courſe, till reſtrained by fatal inability. But ſhall health, and perhaps life be ſacrificed to pleaſure? Some alſo, whoſe minds have been occupied in buſineſs, or pleaſures, ſtart at the thought of their liability to ſickneſs and death, they are unwilling to believe the ſureſt evidences, and inſtead of paying ſeaſonable attention to their declining health, labor hard to contradict their own feelings. Yield then to the voice of reaſon, and the counſels of affection and experience; and let not the power of faſhion, and love of pleaſure drive or allure to the loſs of the greateſt temporal bleſſing, health. Conſider no indiſpoſition as trifling, which is a forerunner of CONSUMPTION.

PHILO.

AGRICULTURAL.

Experiments and Obſervations on the Canker Worm, by Dr. ROWLAND GREEN, *jun.*

DR. ADAMS,

THE encloſed is the reſult of a number of experiments and obſervations made in the years 1793 and 1794. If you think it contains uſeful information, you may, if you pleaſe, inſert it in your Regiſter.

R. GREEN, JUN.

Mansfield, July 18, 1806.

On the Canker Worm.

WITHOUT preliminary obſervations, I ſhall endeavour to give a general outline of the natural hiſtory of the inſects, called canker worms. Contemptible as they are, they arreſt the attention of the farmer, by the devaſtation they make in his orchards.

Early in the ſpring, the inſects, in their perfect form, make their appearance, and depoſite their eggs in the rough or fractured bark, ſharp angles of the branches and other ſmall cavities on the ſmaller limbs of the apple tree. This happens

ſooner or later according to the warmth of the ſeaſon. The frozen earth muſt be thawed, that the inſects may make their way through the ſame, and aſcend the trees. The time when the eggs are hatched, alſo depends on the warmth of the atmoſphere, commonly about the firſt of May ; however, the beſt criterion is the early period of vegetation.

The worms in their infant ſtate are very ſmall, about one-tenth of an inch in length, and are black ; when full grown, are of various ſizes, generally three-fourths of an inch in length, and one-twelfth of an inch in thickneſs, and are ſtriped, brown, black, &c. They have ſix anterior feet, and four poſterior, which are larger than the former. When they move, they bring the poſterior feet near to the anterior, bending the body, then reach forwards, and take hold with the anterior feet, and then bring the hinder parts onwards, &c. When moving from place to place they emit a ſmall ſpider-like thread, and if by accident they loſe their hold, ſuſpend themſelves by it. This thread they can climb, and reſume their former ſituation, or ſpin to ſome length, and by the help of the wind, may be wafted to adjacent trees ; or by falling on travellers, carriages, &c. may be conveyed from one orchard to another at conſiderable diſtance. They devour moſt at night, and are moſt varacious the laſt week of their continuance on the trees. Frequently they are ſo numerous as to devour all the foliage on certain trees, and conſequently, if they have not arrived to maturity, great numbers periſh. When the trees are thus diſrobed of their verdure, exhalation and abſorption are interrupted, and if the force of vegetation be not ſtrong, they blaſt and die, but if vegetation go on forcibly, they aſſume new life, a new foliage comes on. When they have come to their full growth and maturity, which is in about three weeks from the time of being hatched, they leave the trees commonly by travelling down the trunk, and go into the earth. This movement is generally in the evening; and it is worthy of remark, that all their principal movements are enveloped in darkneſs. The time when they leave the trees is from the 20th of May to the 10th of June, depending on the time of leaving the egg, &c. They dig into the earth from one to five inches, according to the hardneſs of the ſoil ; but where the turf is hard and tough, they will ſometimes take their lodgings within an inch of the ſurface. They are found in the earth, as far from the trunk as the branches of the ſam extend, but are moſt numerous near the trunk. They pla themſelves in the earth nearly perpendicular, with the h uppermoſt, and gradually contract in length, which on ſeventh or eighth day of their new abode is contracted ne one-third. They are now unable to walk, feet ſhrivelled, b

ing but little motion. About the ninth or tenth day the act of transformation takes place, and is completed in a few minutes ; juſt before this, the inſect appears uneaſy by its various motions, until the ſkin (which at this time ſeems to be much diſengaged from the body) burſts at the head and over the anterior feet, and by repeated exertions, is diveſted of its vermicular clothing.

They are now in the aurelian ſtate, contained in thin ſhells of a light brown colour, about four-tenths of an inch in length, and much larger at the anterior part than at the other, which is pointed. The ſhell grows harder and darker until the whole is of a dark brown, alſo their motion diminiſhes as the ſhell grows harder, until they are apparently deſtitute of any. In this ſtate they lie uninjured by froſt through the winter, till the laſt of February or firſt of March, at which time if the earth is ſufficiently thawed, and the weather mild, they again transform, and rank with the miller tribe, leave the earth, travel to and aſcend the trees, and continue to come out of the earth, more or leſs, according to the ſtate of the weather, to the 15th of April. In ſome years when the ſpring is forward they may be all out of the earth ſome days before the time here mentioned ; and if the ſpring is very backward, they may riſe a few days later. If the earth is thawed, and there is ſufficient warmth, neither ſtorm nor ſnow will prevent their coming out of the earth and aſcending the trees. The time of day for them to leave the earth is, in fair weather, juſt after ſunſet, and continue coming up ſome hours ; but in cloudy weather, they begin to move before. During the day they are not active, and but few are to be found without cloſe inſpection.

In this, the perfect ſtate, they appear in two forms; thoſe with wings are called millers, and thoſe deſtitute of wings are commonly called grubs.

The millers are the males, the bodies are of a lightiſh colour, about four-tenths of an inch in length, having four wings, and ſix legs which are long and ſlender.

The grubs are the females—their bodies are larger than thoſe of the males, but not ſo long, and of an aſhen colour ; legs much like thoſe of the males ; being deſtitute of wings, they are under the neceſſity of aſcending the tree by the trunk, and from this happy circumſtance, the farmer may, by the means of tar, deſtroy the whole tribe in an orchard, in one ſpring, with proper care and attention.

Immediately after they arrive on the tree, they are active, hiſſing from place to place, and in two or three days the females begin to depoſite their eggs, and continue ſo to do (moving from one place of depoſite to another) for three or four hours, more or leſs, and when concluded, being ſhrivelled, they die.

die, as likewiſe do the males, having performed an entire round and put an end to their work. Sometimes they continue a longer time on the trees, but appear to be in a torpid and dying ſtate. Their eggs are ſmall, numerous, and of a lightiſh colour, but juſt before they are hatched, become blueiſh. The number of eggs caſt by a ſingle grub, is, according to her magnitude, from 150 to 250.

It is not probable that they eat in the perfect ſtate; their continuance is ſhort, being doomed only to the production of their ſpecies. When they are prevented from going up the trees by tar, they may depoſite their eggs in the rough bark or on the ſurface of the earth, and the eggs thus caſt may hatch, and the worms aſcend the tree, if not prevented.

A number of experiments might here be mentioned, confirming the above; but let the following ſuffice.

On the 2d day of March, 1794, two grubs came out of the earth, in which they were kept (in the aurelian ſtate) during the winter. On the 3d were put with the ſame number of males into a glaſs veſſel fitted to receive them. On the 5th, the grubs began to depoſite their eggs on the ſmall branches of an apple tree placed among them, and continued that office for four days, and then both males and females died. The eggs kept in a moderate temperature of air began to hatch on the 5th of April, and continued to hatch, more or leſs, according to the degree of heat in the atmoſphere to the 20th following. The number of eggs caſt by theſe two grubs (which were rather more than a common ſize) were 478, of which hatched 457, which is a numerous increaſe. Thoſe that did not hatch appeared to contain the inſects, but from unknown cauſes died. Eggs depoſited at the ſame time, expoſed to cold air, hatched not until ſome days afterwards.

Effectual mode of tarring.—In the month of February, or before the froſt is out of the earth, prepare the trees for the reception of the inſects, by applying in the moſt convenient place on the trunk, a ſtrip of old linen cloth three inches wide, and ſo ſecured with clay or tow that the inſects cannot paſs underneath, alſo tow ſhould be twiſted in the form of a rope, and tied round the trunk at the lower edge of the cloth to prevent the tar from running down, which would injure the tree.

Whenever the earth begins to thaw, or the degree of heat is above the freezing point (32° of Fahrenheit's thermometer) apply the tar to the cloth with a bruſh juſt before ſunſet, and ſooner if the weather be cloudy. The tar ſhould be thin, but if it be thick it will be neceſſary to warm it, or add to it a ſufficient quantity of fiſh-oil to make it thin and run free. The tar muſt be applied every day during the ſeaſon of

their going up; and if they are very numerous it will ſometimes be neceſſary to apply the tar twice in an evening. Delays are dangerous; the inſects wait for no man; and if a few paſs up, the tree is ruined for the enſuing year.

After the ſeaſon of tarring is over, remove the cloth, &c. ſcrape the trunk below the place of tarring, and apply four or five inches of earth round the trunk to keep the eggs, if any depoſited, below the tar or on the ſurface of the earth from hatching. In ſix weeks this earth may be removed from the trunk, as the eggs by this time will be deſtroyed, for the want of proper heat and air.

Queſtion anſwered.

DR. ADAMS,

In your Medical and Agricultural Regiſter, for Auguſt, page 121, you have this queſtion—"In cold moiſt land, and in cold wet ſeaſons, when Indian corn is often ſo chilled or ſoaked in the ground as never to vegetate, is it beſt to cover deep or ſhallow? to plant in a deep furrow, or on a high ridge? and what kind of manuring is beſt?"

If the land be very wet and cold, in my opinion, it is abſolutely neceſſary to plow your land in ridges. If this is not convenient or practicable, dig your holes deep, let the mould lie ſeveral days to warm and dry in the ſun; if your land is clay, fill your holes half full of coarſe ſand or gravel, then a layer of the earth from the holes; then manure your ground with horſe dung or chriſtian dung if in your neighbourhood; if mixed with lime, aſhes, duſt of pit or charcoal, the better; then a layer of your dirt; let the holes be completely full, and more than full before you drop your corn; then cover it about one and a half inches deep. If the weather be wet and cold, at weeding draw the dirt moderately from the hill, that the roots may more forcibly feel the rays of the ſun; for we all know that *heat* is the one thing needful for corn. MARCUS.

Briſtol County.

Extracts from a Communication by EZRA L'HOMMEDIEU, *Eſq. to the Agricultural Society of New York, and publiſhed with the Tranſactions of the Society*, 1801.

On the Feeding of Hogs to Advantage.

"THE buſineſs of a farmer has been compared to a *hoop*, which has no end; it is certain that there is no buſineſs which requires, eſpecially *to minute objects*, ſo much care: every thing

muſt be attended to, every thing muſt be ſaved, and every buſineſs done in ſeaſon. Farmers in general are not fond of trying experiments, and are more attached *to their old cuſtoms* than people of other profeſſions. The beſt way to introduce any thing new which is uſeful among them, is to give them ocular demonſtration.

As much depends on ſaving in the farming buſineſs, I ſhall take the liberty of making ſome obſervations on the ſavings which may be made *by the feeding of ſwine.* It is a common practice for the people of this ſtate, ſo far as I am acquainted, to give their hogs among other things, *hard corn*, eſpecially when they are fatting; ſome have their corn ground, ſuppoſing they make a ſaving in feeding with meal inſtead of corn, beſides paying one tenth for the grinding. A little obſervation convinces one that it muſt be a great loſs to feed hogs on hard corn; it is not digeſted, and a conſiderable portion is diſcharged with the dung. To avoid this evil, I have been in the practice of ſoaking all my hard corn before it is given to the hogs; this I have ſeen practiſed in Connecticut, and is recommended by Dr. Elliot of that State, in his eſſays on huſbandry. By the experience I have had, I make no doubt but more than *one tenth* of the corn fed to hogs, by this mode of ſoaking, might be ſaved.

Mr. L'Hommedieu here undertakes a calculation what the ſaving in this way might be, in the courſe of a year, throughout the State of N. York. He takes for granted, that, excepting the inhabitants of the cities of Hudſon, Albany, and New York, the number of ſwine would be equal to the number of inhabitants in the State; that each ſwine conſumes on an average two buſhels of corn in a year, equal to 1,060,000 buſhels, of which one tenth is 106,000 buſhels, the ſaving in one year; which, reckoned at four ſhillings per buſhel, will make the conſiderable ſum of 20,200*l.*

"As we are now on the ſubject of feeding hogs, it may be of uſe to obſerve that farmers loſe much by giving freſh bran to hogs; it is eaſily obſerved by their dung that this bran is not digeſted. Perhaps the ſtomach of a hog is ſuch that it will not take hold of a ſubſtance ſo ſlippery, which it will do when it becomes ſour; the hog then digeſts nearly the whole.

"Hogs do very well on white or red clover or ſpear graſs, with little or no other food, and in many parts of the country incloſures are made ſolely for that purpoſe; but when lands are poor, and manure is much wanted, it is more profitable to keep them up the bigger part of the year; the manure they make by ſods, weeds, ſtraw and other vegetables being thrown into the pen, will more than pay for their keeping, as I have ſome years ago obſerved to the ſociety. It is very neceſſary when hogs are kept up

to have a poſt ſet in the middle of the pen that they may rub themſelves with more convenience than they can otherwiſe do. It will be convenient to have two or three veſſels or caſks for the ſoaking of corn to feed hogs, ſo that the corn may be ſufficiently ſoaked before it is given out: in cold weather, or in winter, it ſhould be kept in the cellar, to prevent freezing. As the water in which corn is ſoaked may be more nutritious than otherwiſe, it will be beſt to give this water as occaſion may require to the hogs to drink. As to the time neceſſary to ſoak the corn, no ſpecial direction can be given, as it depends on the temperature of the weather; it ought, however, to be ſo much ſoaked, as to prevent that indigeſtion which is experienced in feeding with hard corn, and it is eaſily diſcovered by the dung of the hogs. While we are on this ſubject of ſoaking of corn, it may not be amiſs to mention that ſoaked corn is a much better feed for horſes than moſt other, and leſs dangerous than hard corn. I have known many farmers in this practice, and have practiſed it myſelf to good advantage. It is generally ſuppoſed that you make a ſaving by feeding Indian meal to horſes, more than to pay for the toll of grinding the corn. I have tried both, and am of opinion that a horſe will be kept in better fleſh by feeding with ſoaked corn than by Indian meal, and that there will be a greater ſaving in the former than in the latter."

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

ARTICLE XXIV.

Reſult of Meteorological and other Obſervations, for Auguſt, 1806; made at DEERFIELD, WARWICK, MASON, PORTSMOUTH, and SMITHFIELD, (R. I.)—For the Medical and Agricultural Regiſter.

Auguſt, 1806.	*Mean degs. at ſun-riſe.*	*Mean degs. at 2 P. M.*	*Mean degree of the month.*	*Greateſt heat in the month.*	*Leaſt heat in the month.*	*Prevailing winds.*	*Marriages.*	*Births.*	*Deaths.*
Deerfield	59 5/6	74 1/2	67 1/8	8th day 88°	19th day 48°	S. 14 days			3
Warwick	60 2/3	78	69 1/3	7 89	28 45	N.W. 13 days		1	2
Maſon	63 1/2	73	68 1/2	7 84	1 56	W. 14 days			—
Portſmouth	61 1/5	74 1/2	68	6 83	1, 28 54	N.W. 11 days			
Smithfield	63 1/3	74 1/3	69 5/6			S.W. 10 days			

WEATHER.

1st day, foggy, fair.
2—cloudy, a little rain, 0,3*
3 } Sund. fair, briſk
4 } winds.
5—cloudy, a little rain, 0,40† 0,3*
6—flying clouds; Portſ. thund. ſho.
7—fair and pleaſant; ☾ laſt quarter. thunder.
8—foggy, fair, ſmall ſhowers.
9—cloudy, fair, ſprinkling of rain.
10 } Sund. Smithf. froſt in low lands.
11 } fair and
12 } pleaſant.
13—cloudy, gentle ſhowers, 0,30† 0,1*
14—cloudy morning, fair. New Moon. Smithf. pears and apples begin to ripen.
15 } cloudy mornings, then rain 1,0†
16 } fair; ſprinkling of rain
17 } Sund. in ſome places.
18—fair.
19 } cloudy and ſunſhine
20 } alternately, 0,10† ☽ firſt quarter.
21 } ſprinkling of rain
22 } in ſome places.
23 } Sund. thun. ſhower, 0,50† 1,35*
24 } Portſ. ſevere thun. ſhower, 0,5*
25—fair. Smithf. people beginning
26 } foggy morn- to make
27 } ings, fair. cider.
28 } fair, briſk winds.
29 } Smithf. peaches begin to ripen.
30 } fair, ſome
31 } clouds. Deerf. ſhower.

Depth of water fallen in rain—Warwick 2,40 inches; Smithfield 2,65 inches.

Maſon.—We have had but little rain this month, the drought becomes pinching. The crop of hay, eſpecially on high lands, has been very ſmall, and the feed in paſtures unuſually ſhort. The crops of Engliſh grain very good; Indian corn in moſt places in this town looks promiſing.

N. B. The thermometrical obſervations have been made hitherto in an unfiniſhed room. In future they will be made in the ſhade in the open air.

Warwick, Auguſt, 1806.

State of health, &c.—The month has been very healthy, a few caſes of the dyſentery excepted.

Progreſs of vegetation, &c.—The vegetable creation has moved towards maturity in a moderate degree; perhaps a little more rain would have rendered its progreſs more rapid. We have had pears, and fruit of the ſtone kind in great plenty. The quantity of apples in proportion to our orchards will be very moderate.

W. COBB.

Smithfield, Auguſt 31, 1806.

The weather continued dry till the 23d, when we had a copious ſhower in the morning, and ſome thunder, followed by gentle rain till night; when the wind ſhifted from north-weſt to north and north-eaſt, and the rain continued with conſiderable wind, till the evening of the following day. The temperature of the air changed very ſuddenly at the commencement of the ſhower on the 23d. At fifteen minutes before nine, A. M. the mercury ſtood at 78°; but in twelve or fifteen minutes it had fallen to 68°.

* At Smithfield. † At Warwick.

It is believed that the crop of Indian corn will be conſiderably diminiſhed on account of the dry cool weather. In many places where it had acquired a good growth of ſtalks the ears are not ſo numerous, large or full as uſual. Apples are conſiderably plenty. Pears and peaches are alſo plenty. This month has been healthy, for the ſeaſon, but few caſes of fever have occurred for this time of the year.

A SMITHFIELD SUBSCRIBER.

Deerfield, Auguſt 31, 1806.

Remarks.—Our people are now getting their ſecond crop of graſs; this, except on low wet grounds, turns out very light, in conſequence of the prevailing drought, which has been very ſevere during the month. The rains which have fallen this month have been ſmall, and have furniſhed but little nouriſhment to vegetation. Notwithſtanding the very promiſing appearance of Indian corn in the early part of the ſeaſon, we now expect but an indifferent crop; for, in general, the ears are thinly ſet, and are ſmall. Our farmers ſay the ſummer has been too cool for this crop, and I believe the remark to be true. The nights have in general been uncommonly cool throughout the ſeaſon.

State of health, &c.—The month has been rather unhealthy. We have had ſeveral caſes of dyſentery, but they have not proved very fatal. The *cholera morbus* has been uncommonly frequent, but it has not in any caſe terminated fatally. A few caſes of fever have occurred in this and the neighbouring towns. The 23d of the month, died, Mr. John Sheldon, of the conſumption. This was the father of the family out of which three have died of the ſame diſeaſe, within four years, as mentioned in my former communications: others in this family are now threatened with hectical ſymptoms.

E. HOYT.

Extract from a public Print.

Edgarton, (Martha's Vineyard,) Auguſt 28, 1806.

"We have had a very ſevere ſtorm here. On the morning of the twenty-third, the heavens appeared to be covered thick with darkneſs; the wind ſouth-weſt: it now began to rain attended with flaſhes of lightning, not ſharp, and but little thunder; the rain continued all day, and at times ſeemed to pour down in torrents; towards night it abated: in the night the wind ſhifted, and in the morning was at eaſt; it ſoon began to rain, the wind veered to north-eaſt, and it increaſed to one

of the ſevereſt gales I have ever experienced. The rain increaſed with the wind, and the face of the ground appeared a flood of water. The quantity that fell is almoſt inconceivable. A barrel that ſtood in the open field was filled. At the moſt moderate computation it fell *thirty inches deep* upon a level. It is impoſſible to eſtimate the damage it has done. The corn is all beat flat to the ground, and the ſtalks ſtripped of their leaves. It has riſen ſince, but will never recover. The labor of the huſbandman, I preſume, is cut ſhort more than one half. The proſpect of fruit was promiſing; the apples are almoſt all blown down. We have experienced this ſummer the extremes of drought and of flood. From the twentieth of *April* to the twentieth of *July*, but very little rain; and now a rain in judgment."

The rain on the twenty fourth, (Sunday) at Boſton, commenced ſome time previous to two o'clock the night before. It was a very ſteady, uniform rain for more than twelve hours. The quantity of water fallen on a level, between the hours of *twelve* and *one*, was *four-tenths of an inch.* Forty miles back to the north-weſt, in the country, the whole quantity of water fallen in rain through the day, by actual meaſurement, was but *half an inch.*

For the MEDICAL AND AGRICULTURAL REGISTER.

New York, April 26, 1806.

"Mr. Munroe, miniſter of the United States to the Engliſh government, has tranſmitted, at the requeſt of the envoy of the king of Pruſſia, reſident in London, and by order of the king, a gold medal, to Dr. RUSH, of Philadelphia, as an acknowledgment of the high ſenſe entertained of his medical writings. The medal contains on one ſide a likeneſs of the king of Pruſſia, and on the other, an appropriate device."

POETRY.

Omens of the year; the firſt Symptoms of Fever deſcribed; Medical Aid to be called in immediately. The Danger of Delays; Frailty of human Life.

IN prophetic numbers could unfold
The omens of the year; what ſeaſons teem
With what diſeaſes; what the humid ſouth

Prepares, and what the demon of the eaſt:
But you perhaps refuſe the tedious ſong.
Beſides, whatever plagues in heat or cold,
Or drought or moiſture, dwell, they hurt not you:
Skill'd to correct the vices of the ſky,
And taught already how to each extreme
To bend your life. But ſhould the public bane
Infect you, or ſome treſpaſs of your own,
Or flaw of nature hint mortality,
Soon as a not unpleaſing horror glides
Along the ſpine through all your torpid limbs,
When firſt the head throbs, or the ſtomach feels
A ſickly load, a weary pain the loins,
Be Celſus call'd:* the fates come ruſhing on;
The rapid fates *admit of no delay.*
While wilful you, and fatally ſecure
Expect to-morrow's more auſpicious ſun,
The growing peſt, whoſe *infancy was weak*
And eaſy vanquiſh'd, *with triumphant ſway*
O'ERPOW'RS YOUR LIFE. For want of timely care
Millions have dy'd of medicable wounds.
Ah! in what perils is vain life engag'd!
What *ſlight neglects*, what *trivial faults deſtroy*
The hardieſt frame! Of indolence, of toil,
We die; of want, of ſuperfluity.
The all-ſurrounding heaven, the vital air,
IS BIG WITH DEATH; and though the putrid ſouth
Be ſhut, though no convulſive agony
Shake from the deep foundations of the world
Th' impriſon'd plagues, *a ſecret venom oft*
Corrupts the air, the water, and the land.
What livid deaths has ſad Byzantium ſeen!
How oft has Cairo with a mother's woe
Wept o'er her ſlaughter'd ſons and lonely ſtreets!
E'en Albion, girt with leſs malignant ſkies,
Albion the poiſon of the gods has drank,
And felt the ſting of monſters all her own.

ARMSTRONG.

* A phyſician.

CONDITIONS OF THE REGISTER.

PUBLISHED monthly, the laſt Wedneſday of every month, at *One Dollar* per annum, delivered at the office, payable half yearly, in advance.

CONDUCTED BY DANIEL ADAMS, M. B.

BOSTON:—Printed by MANNING & LORING, at whoſe Bookſtore, No. 2, Cornhill, any orders or communications for the *Regiſter* will be received.